

HYODO et al
Appl. No. 09/437,239

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reexamination of the captioned application is respectfully requested.

A. SUMMARY OF THIS AMENDMENT

By the current amendment, Applicants basically:

1. Editorially amend claims 9 and 12.
2. Respectfully traverse all prior art rejections.

B. PATENTABILITY OF THE CLAIMS

Claims 9-10 and 12-13 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 5,504,585 to Fujinami et al in view of U.S. Patent 5,546,365 to Roth. Claims 9-10 and 12-13 under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 6,006,007 to Honjo in view of U.S. Patent 5,504,585 to Fujinami et al and U.S. Patent 5,546,365 to Roth. All prior art rejections are respectfully traversed for at least the following reasons.

Applicants submit that independent claims 9 and 12 both include limitations which are not taught or suggested by any applied reference, either individually or in combination. For example, Applicants' "location information" limitation is utterly lacking and non-suggested in the applied art.

Applicants' "location information" is explained in both independent claim 9 and independent claim 12

as including information on a head position of a data-pack including a head of the coded video-data of the key-frame or a head of the coded audio-data corresponding to the key-frame (emphasis added).

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The primary applied reference, U.S. Patent 5,504,585 to Fujinami et al, does not teach or suggest Applicants' location information limitation. The Office Action incorrectly points in Fujinami to column 19, lines 55-65 as allegedly teaching the claimed location information. However, what is alleged in the Office Action to be location information instead indicates a head position of an I-picture (ENTRY POINT in Fig. 13). Fujinami's ENTRY POINT, which relates to the location of video data within a data-pack.

In contrast, Applicants' claimed and clearly worded location information refers to the head position of a data-pack. Applicants store the head position of each data pack as the location information, thereby enabling the method/apparatus to achieve synchronous reproduction of audio-data and video-data after random access. This synchronous reproduction is an important advantage which cannot be attained only by use of Fujinami's ENTRY POINT. At best Fujinami can obtain a high-speed search of merely video data, but (lacking anything resembling Applicants' location information) cannot obtain synchronous reproduction.

Thus, U.S. Patent 5,504,585 to Fujinami et al has no teaching or suggestion of Applicants' claimed location information. Nor can Applicants' location information of a data-pack of multiplexed data be found, extrapolated, or presumed from any other applied reference.

In the above regard, the Office Action properly admits that U.S. Patent 6,006,007 to Honjo fails to teach the features of "managing the head position of the key-frame of video coded data" and "including the multiplexed audio and video coded data". With these (among other) deficiencies, it is inconceivable that a combination of Honjo, for example, with Fujinami (which does not describe the location information of the head position of the data-pack) would lend themselves to combination, much less realization of Applicants' independent claims 9 and 12.

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C. MISCELLANEOUS


In view of the foregoing and other considerations, all claims are deemed in condition for allowance. A formal indication of allowability is earnestly solicited.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge the undersigned's deposit account #14-1140 in whatever amount is necessary for entry of these papers and the continued pendency of the captioned application.

Should the Examiner feel that an interview with the undersigned would facilitate allowance of this application, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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